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Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co.

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M.W.A.K. COLUMBIAN

SAFETY
DEPARTMENT

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER CO.
BUILDERS OF COULEE DAM

MASON CITY
WASHINGTON

Vol. 3, No. 47

M. Pete Shrauger, Editor
Safety Engineer

November 25, 1937.

TO OUR EMPLOYEES:

Reduction of Forces

It has been customary at about this time of year to state our plans for Winter work, so employees could know what to count on during that period.

Our contract work on this project is rapidly closing down and we now believe that the main concrete will be substantially completed between December 5th and 10th. At about this time the gravel plant will be shut down, shop work generally curtailed, and the force drastically reduced for the few remaining pours which will extend after this date.

Except for a small force, therefore, all men on the project should count on being laid off about this time. We will intend to do what remaining concrete, cofferdam removal and cleanup work is necessary and to reduce to a total force of less than one hundred men by January 1st.

This reorganization will affect all classes, superintendents, foremen, journeymen and laborers alike, and all should be prepared for it.

It is not our purpose to speak for the successful contractor for the high dam, but in fairness to our present employees we must say that the new specifications indicate that the possibilities for employment on the new job will be very limited until the Fall of 1938, and that we now believe that only a very small force will be employed until that time.

We are arranging to issue service cards to our employees in lieu of letters of recommendation, and all present employees desiring these may obtain them from the office of J. O. Murray, Personnel Manager. They will be available within a few days.

Geo. H. Atkinson

Geo. H. Atkinson
Job Manager

BEHIND THE WHEEL

The entire area is aware of the horrible fate that befell three MWAK employees when the truck in which they were riding to work plugged over the edge of the highway and downward nearly 200 feet last Friday, bringing immediate death to two and leaving the third in an unbroken coma. Comment of observers who lined the edge of the slushy highway was: "It gives you something to think about." And it does!

It focuses a more personal and glaring spotlight, despite the best of vigilance, upon a traffic record that does not detract one whit from the shameful traffic record in the United States that rocketed to a new high for accidents last year. It focuses attention upon the man at the wheel, because investigation has shown that in three cases out of five the man behind the wheel will be responsible for accidents that result unless a radical change results.

In considering such conditions of traffic we are also aware of a further important fact: THE MAN BEHIND THE WHEEL WHO WILL BECOME CAREFUL IS THE MAN WHO WILL BECOME CAREFUL ON THE JOB. THE REVERSE SHOULD ALSO BE TRUE.

Automobile injuries last year vaulted just short of the one million mark in the United States. The chief causes in their order of occurrence are by motorists not having the right of way, exceeding the speed limit, being on the wrong side of the road, driving off the roadway and reckless driving. Far above any other cause in bringing death--more than double any other--is through excessive speeding.

Another contributory cause difficult to check in many cases--liquor. Drink has no place with the thinking driver, for he needs no evidence other than his own conscience to tell him that driving when his reactions are numbed by alcohol is a cardinal traffic sin.

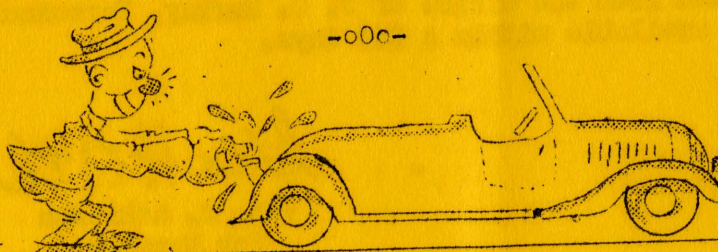
Neither can the driver blame his machine, for 93.2 per cent of the machines involved in fatal accidents last year were apparently in good condition, and 95 per cent for non-fatal accidents.

Eighty-five per cent of the accidents were sustained during clear weather and on dry roads. Rain and wet roads rated the next highest position.

* * * * *

The spirit of the twentieth century seems to be speed, but this has got to change, for you and the man in the car ahead or behind you want to feel that you are safe. No possible way can be found for guaranteeing this unless both you and he make a habit of being CAREFUL---ALWAYS.

-oOo-



CRYSTAL BALL

RED NELSON insisted, "Th' sun got in my eyes" when his foreman growled, "Whassa idea of overlooking this little bit of work?"

---ED MOORE, "Woe, woe is me! I miss the little game chicken coming up to the gate and crowing a hello. I sent them all back to Tennessee."

"WILD" TEX had a \$100 watch that somehow wouldn't stay with him. At least others get much benefit out of it

---ROLAND TEGTMAYER, 230-pound life-guard who recently took an under-water swim rather unexpectedly in the diversion channel, "I felt just like some clothes in a Maytag washer."

JIMMY WARREN, son of a belligerent father on a recent occasion (Even he admitted it), went 50:50 on a 29.50 limousine that actually turns over on its wheels

---ELWYN SIMPSON is training to become a radio announcer, but he says he may cut out one or two expressions

"BIG" PETE MAPES has one or two horrible ideas. One of them has something to do with the abolition of statistical study through use of a deep, deep hole

---JIM FOSTER, who says, "Boys, it's facts that makes the news," is using extra electricity in writing his first installment on Facts and Circulation

M. L. WHEELER twice recognized the east wing of the hospital

---BUD QUINN hurt his teeth on 72 pieces of silver

GET THIS SAFETY HABIT:: NEVER TURN YOUR HEAD TO TALK WHILE DRIVING. KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE ROAD

---WHITEY, a well-known graveyard shift rigger, won't tell everybody, but it's a fact that water once got entirely too warm for his stomach

DAPHNE JANNECK is horrified. Won't it be awful, she thinks, when the Grand Canyon is finally filled up with old razor blades

---ED MARKEN got a week's notice from his wife in Seattle that she was coming to visit him. "But she got here the next day," he said. "--Mobbe to check up?"

JACK MEEHAN, "Now I've gotta be careful what I say--my public, you know," as he continued raking clippings from extra newspaper copies.

A YEAR AGO

---Sounding barge completes its 50,000 sounding of the Columbia river for cross-river cofferdam

---One hundred and fifty members of the National Reclamation association gather at the dam

---Deep sea diving at the dam site reaches 200 hours

---IF YOU'RE NOT ACCIDENT-CONSCIOUS YOU'VE NO BUSINESS WORKING AROUND OTHERS

---Burn last timber remains of catwalk across Columbia river

---All cribs move out from west side diversion channel--11 of them

---Sam A. Mason 11, MWAK treasurer, subscribes to five important daily newspapers for men's reading room

---First pour ready in bottom of deep east hole at block 69-A

ODDS 'N ENDS

---It takes only two persons with modern methods to make all the tennis balls that are sold in the United States

---World war veterans are dying at the rate of 80 every day or 30,000 a year

---The man who invented the modern plow (Jethro Wood) whittled his first models out of potatoes

---Maine has an 800-acre desert

---More than 10 million Christmas trees are cut from our woodlands each December

---It has been estimated that 22.9 per cent of the population of the United States is now past 45 years old

---Jean Arthur, screen actress, wanted to be a tight-rope walker, but she gave up the ambition when she fell off the back fence of her father's home

---AIR YOUR ROOMS, NOT YOUR TROUBLES

---The fire toll is 20 times as much in unprotected as in protected forests

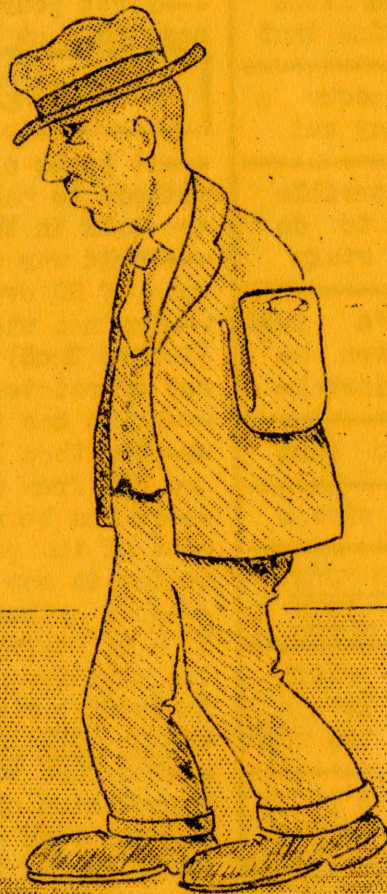
---Most fish have teeth, shed them many times during their life, and always grow new ones to replace them

---The Swiss people eat four times as much cheese and the English eat twice as much per capita as the United States

---Rust, the kind that eats iron and steel, causes an annual loss in the United States of over one billion dollars

TRAGEDY

No Work for an Empty Sleeve



WORK WITH SAFETY

Mike
Erlandson

MINIATURE SCREENING PLANT FOR SAND

SAND DRYER, MADE OF SECOND-HAND MATERIALS, PROVES EFFICIENT IN SCREENING AND DRYING WASTE SAND AT 2,000,000-YARD PILE BELOW GRAVEL PLANT

Brett pit, source of aggregate for the dam contains a predominance of sand. About half the sand must go for waste. The huge pile below the aggregate screening plant contains 2,000,000 yards--more or less--of excess sand that has gone to waste.

It may be difficult to believe that the sand, however small in amount of use, could go for work on the dam. But such is the case, made possible by a structure that cuts back 100 feet into the huge bank of waste sand. Few are aware of the plant built on three steps.

The establishment provides the sand used in sand blasting, the sand for roadways, and the sand for placing on steel rails. The finished product for sand blasting, however, must be dry, while sand that has passed from the aggregate plant is wet. And so this structure, hidden from most of the eyes on the dam, performs the duty of drying sand through use of an oil burner feeding into a revolving cylindrical dryer.

With the exception of the oil burner, the numerous equipment has either been fabricated here or has been used elsewhere on the job before going to the sand dryer.

Originally, drying of sand here was hand procedure, and uneconomical. Since fabrication and assembling of parts which make up the sand dryer, the output of sand for sand blasting is a finished product varying in amount from 60 to 75 yards daily, depending upon the degree of wetness of the sand in the waste pile. Present operation is about 10 shifts weekly.

Sand blasting is an important procedure because it plays a vital and efficient part in concrete cleanup. The use of sand in air hose acts as a kind of emery on laitence that rises on concrete. But to be most effective the sand must be

of proper size. Another consideration is that sand must be dry in order to be most efficiently picked up by the sand blast hose. If it is damp or has not been screened it may tend to cling together and will not cut as it should. There might be some possibility, too, of clogging drains. To see that the sand for this use is of proper size, dry and free becomes the duty of the sand dryer.

A tunnel 100 feet back into the waste sand pile leads to a small feeder with a reduction gear. Rollers of the feeder distribute the wet sand to a 24-inch belt once used at the gravel plant. The conveyor belting drops the sand through a chute to a screw conveyor leading to the two-section cylindrical dryer. The screw conveyor equalizes sand distribution and prevents any escape of heat from the revolving dryer. At the opposite end of the dryer is the oil burner feeding a flaming oil jet into the dryer.

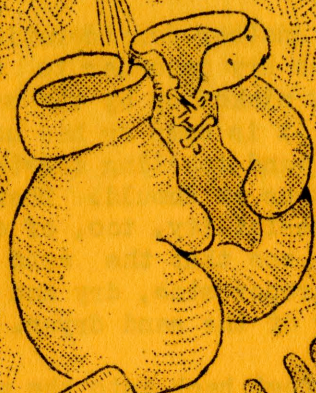
The sand in the dryer circulates over a series of baffles to become thoroughly heated and dry, and then feeds downward to become screened through vibrating screens. Road sand passes through 3/16-inch mesh and is retained on No. 10 mesh. Sand blasting passes through No. 10 to be retained on 18-mesh. Railroad sand is retained on 28-mesh. The finest sand, hardly more than a dust, is carried away by water.

Road sand and sand for blasting finally end up in two hoppers once used on the dam for concrete work. From the bin containing road sand, one or two trucks draw daily. From four to five yards of sand must pass through the dryer to produce one yard of sand for blasting.

Examples of sources of materials are a reduction gear from a main 60-inch conveyor; old screens from the gravel plant, and a universal from an excavation truck.

Jack Oakie ~ John Boles

Ida Lupino



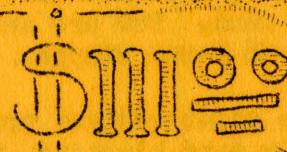
in

FIGHT FOR YOUR LADY

The funniest Comedy of the Year!

Sun and Mon

SWEEPSTAKES
Tuesday



MASON CITY THEATRE

COULEE TRADING
CO.

SUGGESTS:

Buy Your Winter
Wear **NOW!**

Popular Brands
AT Popular Prices

CLOTHING DEPT.

MILK-SHAKES

SANDWICHES

CHILI

SODAS

ICE CREAM

CANDIES

AT
THE SODA FOUNTAIN
Coulee Trading Co

Mike

CHURCH

COMMUNITY CHURCH-- The Rev. W. W. Sloan,
Ph. D., pastor

9:45 a.m. Church school
11:00 a.m. Morning worship; subject,
"THE HEART OF A CHRISTIAN"
7:00 p.m. Vesper services
7:30 p.m. Tonight (FRIDAY), vesper
gang party

CATHOLIC CHURCH--Father A. Farrelly, pastor

On Sunday mass will be said at 11 a.m.
in Grand Coulee and at 9 a.m. in St.
Benedict's church, Mason City. Instruct-
ions will be given Saturday morning for
children.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY
SAINTS--R. E. Nuttall, Branch President

10:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Departmental works--for ad-
ults, juniors and primary

ELECTRIC CITY UNION CHURCH

11:00 a.m. Sunday School
12:00 a.m. Prayer meeting
6:30 p.m. Young people
7:30 p.m. Bible study

LAYMEN'S GOSPEL HALL

(Coulee Center)

--Warren E. Hall, pastor
10:00 a.m. Bible school
11:00 a.m. Morning wor-
ship
7:00 p.m. Young people
7:30 p.m. Evening wor-
ship

OSBORNE GOSPEL TABERNAACLE

Sunday morning, 11:15
Sunday evening, evangelis-
tic, 7:45.
Prayer meetings, Wednesday
and Friday, 7:45 p.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

(In Electric City Union
church)

Services are held ev-
ery Saturday morning at
9:45, followed by Bible
study.

-oOo-

GRAND COULEE A.C. GOES TO TOWN

Members of the active Grand Coulee ath-
letic club will face the best boxers in
the state in a giant card planned under
the sponsorship of a local union, the
Grand Coulee athletic club announced this
week. A definite date for the card has
not been settled as yet.

Headlined by Heavyweight Speed, Steven-
son, who has won his last six battles, the
local squad will meet the Spokane Golden
Glove champions in six bouts tonight.

In addition to Stevenson the roster in-
cludes Billy Gibson, welterweight; Bill
Hill, bantamweight; Claire Kephart and
"Bud" Turner, middleweights, and Joe Wil-
son, light-heavyweight.

-oOo-

Added to the list of nationally-known
teams who will face the bureau of reclama-
tion in basketball are a team of girls!

But the girls make a habit of taking ov-
er half of their games--without finding it
necessary to win over other girl's teams.

They are the All-American Redheads, Slat-
ed to appear in late winter.

-oOo-

BASKETBALL--Mason City high-Wilbur high,
Dec. 3., a local game.

-oOo-

PRE-DIX-SHUNS

by Joe Farrell

Notre Dame over U.S.C.,
Missouri over U.C.L.A.,
U.S.F. over Michigan
State; Columbia over
Stanford; San Diego Mar-
ines over Oregon; Vill-
anova over Loyola; Santa
Clara over Gonzaga.

-oOo-

YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN
TO BE CONSCIENTIOUS TO
DO A GOOD JOB SAFELY!!

-oOo-

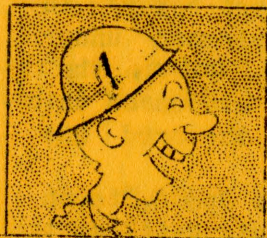
OWNERS OF HORSES WINNING

Mason City theatre
"Sweepstakes":
Evelyn Peterson, first,
Mason City, \$12.
Jack Annis, Mason City,
second, \$24.
K. E. Hydorn, Coulee Dam,
third, \$50.

-oOo-

WELDER'S HELPER BY
Mike





SCOOPS?



One of the most embarrassing experiences he ever had was told by a workman here the other day when he was the particular juror in question:::

A racketeer, on trial for murder, paid the juror \$100 to hold out for a verdict of manslaughter. After being out for a long time, the jury returned the desired verdict.

"I'm grateful to you," the racketeer told, the juror. "Did you have any trouble?"

"Yeah," replied the juror, "I had a devil of a time. All the others wanted to acquit you."

-ooo-

MOST WOMEN WHO STRUT AROUND IN FOX FURS ARE ONLY PUTTING ON THE DOG.

-ooo-

A recent though unusual occurrence came in the local police court when a fellow was arraigned for assault and battery.

"What is your name, occupation and what are you charged with?" asked the justice.

Came the answer: "My name is Sparks; I am an electrician, and I'm charged with battery."

Justice (After recovering his equilibrium): "Officer, put this guy in a dry cell."

-ooo-

MAN HAS BRAIN LIKE A FISH, SCIENTISTS FIND. NO WONDER HE BITES AT ANY KIND OF BAIT.

-ooo-

Visitor (in editorial rooms): "What do you use that blue pencil for?"

Editor: "Well, to make a long story short, it's to--er--make a long story short."

-ooo-

LEARN FIRST AID AND YOU WILL BE CONVINCED MORE THAN EVER THAT--SAFETY PAYS:

-ooo-

"I don't see Charlie half as much as I used to."

"You should have married him when you had the chance."

"I did."

-ooo-

"Maggie, here's a ticket for tonight's conjuring show, and when the conjurer comes to that part where he takes a teaspoonful o' flour and one egg and makes 20 omelettes, watch verra, verra close."

-ooo-

WHEN LOVERS KISS AND MAKE UP SHE USUALLY GETS THE KISS AND HE GETS THE MAKEUP

-ooo-

"I notice your husband always has his hair cut short."

Peggy Ane: "Yes, the coward."

-ooo-

We know of a local chemist's having had a scene with his wife, who finally broke down crying. Whereupon he ejaculated:

"Stop crying! Your tears have no effect upon me. What are they? A small percentage of phosphorus salts, a little sodium chloride. All the rest--water. Bah!"

-ooo-

THE HONEYMOON IS OVER WHEN THE GROOM FINDS THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS HE CAN'T SAY WITH FLOWERS.

-ooo-

An oiler was aroused from his asleep by his wife. "Dear," she whispered. "Wake up; there's a mouse in the house. I heard him squeak."

"Well," growled the husband. "What do you expect me to do; get up and oil him?"

-ooo-

DO THE JOB RIGHT. THERE IS NO SHORT CUT TO SAFETY.

-ooo-

The hospital reports this daddy who must have been inexperienced:

"Darling, isn't it time the baby said Daddy?"

"No, dear, I've decided not to tell him who you are until he gets stronger."

-ooo-

IT SEEMS THAT THE HUMAN BEING IS THE ONLY ANIMAL WHO CAN BE SKINNED TWICE.

-ooo-

"When my wife wants some money she calls me handsome--handsome over."

GIVE HIM A CHANCE

The following advice can prove of benefit in all kinds of accidents--on the job, the highway, or in the home:::

"Under no circumstances attempt to move an injured person unless a doctor or other competent person supervises your action. Minor fractures can be aggravated, additional suffering caused, by well-meaning but unskilled handling of injured persons. In conjunction with the Connecticut Fracture committee, the Connecticut State department of motor vehicles urges public interest and support of the movement to 'Call An Ambulance' immediately.

"It is an admirable spirit which prompts the witnesses of a serious accident to try to relieve the sufferings of the injured persons. Unfortunately, however, their well-intentioned efforts may cause additional pain, may make injuries more serious, or may even cost the life of a helpless accident victim. Investigation of various cases has developed the surprising information that simple injuries often became complicated and resulted in long hospitalization, requiring lengthy medical attention. Major injuries which might well have been handled successfully, became fatalities. Why? Because of improper attention and handling at the time of the accident.

"There are exceptions, for example: loss of blood from an artery. Any unskilled attempt to stop the bleeding may serve to prolong the life of the injured person until somebody arrives who is thoroughly competent to give proper attention."

--The Traveler's Standard

-oOo-

Sylvester Lake, MWAK employee, found that a Thanksgiving turkey can sometimes beat you to the draw. Proposed guests found that out also.

Lake had welcomed his wife to the dam site. They hadn't been married very long, and so it would be nice to have their first Thanksgiving turkey dinner. And guests would be invited, too!

Arrangements were made. A handsome turkey came home with Lake one day. Each evening Lake walked his turkey about the yard. It would eat more--be in better shape. He had a bountiful diet cooked for the big bird--spaghetti, sweet potatoes, cabbage.

Early Thanksgiving morning, hatchet in hand, Lake went after the turkey, but the bird had beat him to it. It was dead.

AUTOMOBILE LICENSES READY

Automobile licenses for 1938 and for Okanogan county will be available next Wednesday, Dec. 1 at the Mason City fire department or state patrol office. Automobile taxes may also be paid at the same time.

Additional information may be obtained from M. L. Wheeler at the fire station.

-oOo-

FOUND and now at the Mason City police station: several lunch buckets; gaskets for 1934 Chevrolet; locked gas cap.

-oOo-

Drilling of C holes for grouting ended Wednesday for the present contract. This was the last of 185 holes drilled up to 75 feet deep after concrete had been placed over bedrock to an elevation of at least 50 feet above the bedrock drilled and grouted.

-oOo-

Whenever diners at the mess hall have ice cream it usually means about 4,000 Dixie cups or from 60 to 65 gallons. The most cups stored during a given day in the ice cream room for use was the day of the recent arrival of President Roosevelt. The total was more than 10,750.

Ten gallons of ice cream can be produced in 10 minutes.

-oOo-

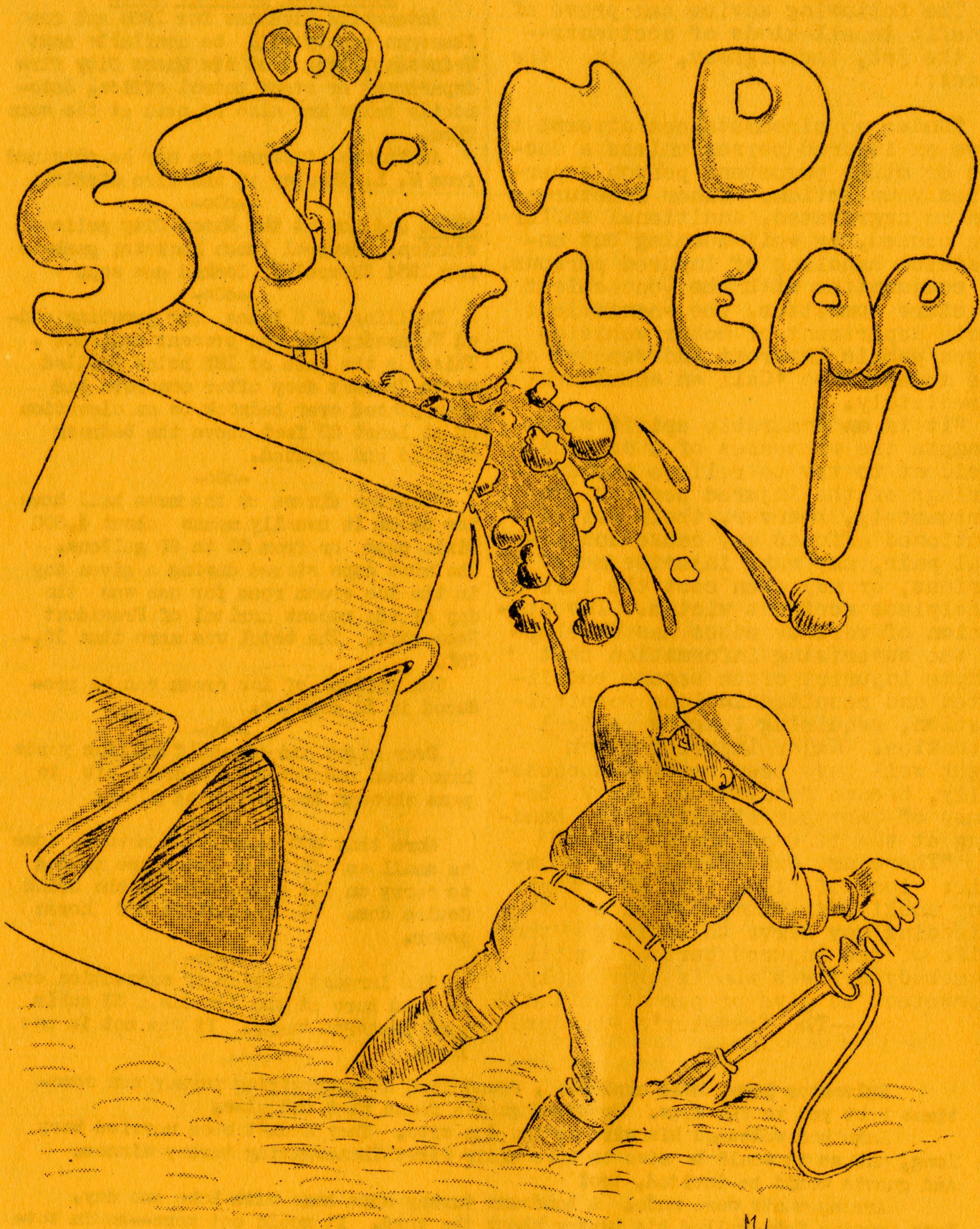
Over eight and one-half million yards have been excavated from Brett pit to pass through the screening plant.

-oOo-

More than 400 electrical motors, some as small as 1/6 horse power are needed to carry on all operations at the Grand Coulee dam. The largest is 500 horse power.

-oOo-

The largest carrier of excavation ever used here at the dam was a 33 cubic yard Isaacson buggy. It was not in use long.



Mike
Erlandson

AROUND THE DAM

SPILLWAY CONCRETE FACES COMPLETION

Only 10 lifts or about 5,000 yards remained for placement in the spillway by yesterday noon for the dam east of the west side diversion channel. Lifts were distributed among blocks 47, 49, 51, 53 and 55. Two lifts were needed for 51-A. With the exception of 49-D, the balance of the concrete for the contract goes into A and B rows in the spillway. This does not include concrete for the temporary fishway in block 62.

The major amount of concrete left for the contract is for the low blocks of 13, 15, 17, 23, 25, 29, 30, 32 and 34.

Only about 40,000 yards remained for blocks east of the spillway section Wednesday.

-oOo-

THREE THOUSAND POUNDS OF TURKEY went to Thanksgiving diners at the mess hall yesterday.

-oOo-

IT'S A LAKE NOW

At noon Wednesday water began accumulating inside the downstream cofferdam as three pumps ceased operations preparatory to removal for the flooding of the area against the downstream side of the dam. But this was only seepage water coming in at the rate of 5000 gallons per minute.

At 5:40 the same day a saw cut through the block 40 crib, 10 feet below the surface of the Columbia river, and first flooding was under way.

And now downstream flooding is complete and the bucket is covered to a point 170 feet above lowest concrete in the dam. The highest concrete block is only about 65 feet above the water.

-oOo-

THE MAN BESIDE YOU CANNOT READ YOUR MIND. SO LET HIM SEE THAT YOU ARE HELPING HIM BE SAFE.

BORN at the Mason City hospital--

Nov. 19, to Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Sorle of Grand Coulee, a son.
Nov. 19, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jones of Grand Coulee, a daughter.
Nov. 24, to Mr. and Mrs. Olin Archer of Grand Coulee, a daughter.

-oOo-

FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS OF 40 PER cent dynamite were ordered Wednesday for use in shaking crib cells and their gravel fill loose in the downstream cofferdam. The powder will be used in cans inside cells of the cofferdam now being uncovered by dragline. Cribbs will be loosened gradually from the west side as the dragline backs up, completing wet excavation as it goes.

-oOo-

The east mixing plant has ceased operations for the present contract.

Last concrete was turned out at the end of the day shift last Sunday.

-oOo-

Welders this week turned to something they've not done here before. They have taken a 20x32-inch piece of manganese from one worn-out shovel bucket and are using it at the latch bar end of another 4-yard shovel dipper. The manganese section has been banded with stainless steel.

Previous shovel buckets had never required such sectional replacement.

Always before a bucket requiring similar replacement would have been thrown away.

-oOo-

MAKE A HABIT OF OBEYING INSTRUCTIONS--THAT'S ONE WAY TO HELP CUT DOWN ON ACCIDENTS

-oOo-

The Clyde-Wiley removed from the east end of the low trestle last week will be used no longer in this contract.

COULEE
TRADING
MEAT CO. DEPT.

Leg of Lamb 25¢

Shoulder of Lamb 25¢

Springers -- 29¢

Hens ---- 29¢